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**BOROUGH OF RYE**



**ANNUAL REPORT**

of the

**Medical Officer of Health**

**for the Year 1960**

By

**M. I. SILVERTON, O.B.E., T.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.**









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To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors  
of the Borough of Rye.

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for 1960.

The statistics reveal that the health of the Borough compares favourably with the rest of England and Wales.

An Inspector of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government held an Inquiry into the proposed Sewerage Scheme in September, 1960. Commencement of the Scheme is envisaged for early 1962. A major operation, but of the highest priority for the preservation of health and welfare of this community.

Thirty-eight Council houses are in process of being built on the Tilling Green Estate, a tribute to the vigour with which the provision of good housing in this Borough is being pursued.

I am obliged to the Chief Public Health Inspector who has supplied the statistical information relating to the sanitary circumstances of the Borough included in this report. It will be noted that his other duties include those of Borough Surveyor and Water Engineer.

The Town Clerk has supplied the information in Section III relative to the letting of Council houses. His unfailing courtesy and help are much appreciated.

I am grateful to the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors for their stimulating interest and support.

I have the honour to be, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

M. I. SILVERTON,

Medical Officer of Health.

The Watch Oak,  
BATTLE, Sussex

Telephone: Battle 214 - 217





BOROUGH OF RYES T A F F

## Medical Officer of Health:

M. I. SILVERTON, O.B.E., T.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., F.R.S.H

Chief Public Health Inspector, Surveyor,  
Town Planning Officer and Water Superintendent:

E. E. EVANS, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.,

The staff of the Battle Rural District Council  
Public Health Department carry out all the clerical  
work of the Medical Officer of HealthSTATISTICS RELATING TO THE BOROUGH OF RYE

|  | <u>1957</u> | <u>1958</u> | <u>1959</u> | <u>1960</u> |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Area of the Borough in acres... ..                               | 1,021       | 1,021       | 1,021       | 1,021       |
| Population (Registrar General's<br>estimate for mid-year) ... .. | 4,520       | 4,470       | 4,470       | 4,480       |
| Rateable Value ... ..  | £65,374     | £67,083     | £70,423     | £70,992     |
| Number of inhabited houses ... ..                                | 1,568       | 1,612       | 1,612       | 1,592       |
| Number of rateable premises ... ..                               | 1,902       | 1,953       | 1,970       | 1,961       |
| Sum represented by a Penny Rate ...                              | £252        | £256        | £272        | £280        |







SECTION IBIRTHS AND BIRTH RATESLive Births:

|              | <u>Male</u> | <u>Female</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|--------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| Legitimate   | 32          | 23            | 55           |
| Illegitimate | 2           | -             | 2            |
|              | <u>34</u>   | <u>23</u>     | <u>57</u>    |

Stillbirths:

|              | <u>Male</u> | <u>Female</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|--------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| Legitimate   | -           | 1             | 1            |
| Illegitimate | -           | -             | -            |
|              | <u>-</u>    | <u>1</u>      | <u>1</u>     |

|  | <u>Borough<br/>of Rye</u> | <u>England<br/>&amp; Wales</u> |
|--|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Live birth rate per 1,000 home population<br>(crude)     | 12.27)                    | 17.1                           |
| * Corrected birth rate... ..                             | 12.97)                    |                                |
| <hr/>  |                           |                                |
| Stillbirth rate per 1,000 births (live and<br>still)     | 17.24                     | 19.7                           |
| Stillbirth rate per 1,000 home population                | 0.22                      | 0.34                           |
| <hr/>  |                           |                                |
| Illegitimate birth rate per 1,000 live<br>births         | 35.08                     | 54.0                           |
| Illegitimate birth rate per cent of total<br>live births | 3.5%                      | 5.4%                           |

DEATHS AND DEATH RATES

|  | <u>Borough<br/>of Rye</u> | <u>England<br/>&amp; Wales</u> |
|--|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Deaths of infants under 1 week... ..   | 1                         | 10,474                         |
| Death rate of infants under 1 week per 1,000<br>live and still births ... .. | 17.24                     | 13.1                           |
| -----  |                           |                                |
| Deaths of infants under 4 weeks ... ..                                       | 1                         | 12,129                         |
| Death rate of infants under 4 weeks per 1,000<br>live births... ..           | 17.54                     | 15.6                           |
| -----  |                           |                                |
| Deaths of infants under 1 year of age ... ..                                 | 2                         | 17,118                         |
| Death rate of infants under 1 year of age<br>per 1,000 live births ... ..    | 35.08)                    | 21.9                           |
| Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate<br>live births... ..           | 36.36)                    |                                |
| Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illeg-<br>itimate live births... ..     | Nil )                     |                                |
| -----  |                           |                                |
| Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and<br>still births .....             | Nil                       | 0.38                           |

Deaths

|                             | <u>Borough of Rye</u> | <u>England and Wales</u> |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Male                        | 30)                   | Male 269,175)            |
|                             | 58                    | 526,275                  |
| Female                      | 28)                   | Female 257,100)          |
| Death rate per 1,000 .. ..  | 12.94)                | 11.5                     |
| * Corrected death rate.. .. | 11.12)                |                          |

\* The birth and death rates are "Corrected" in order to be comparable with those for England and Wales.







DEATHS FROM SPECIFIC CAUSES AND RATES PER 1,000 POPULATION

|   | <u>Borough of Rye</u> |                      | <u>England and Wales</u> |                      |
|---|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
|   | No. of deaths         | per 1,000 population | No. of deaths            | per 1,000 population |
| Tuberculosis (respiratory)                      | 1                     | } 0.22               | 3,094                    | } 0.08               |
| Tuberculosis (other) ...                        | Nil                   |                      | 332                      |                      |
| Influenza ... ..                                | Nil                   | Nil                  | 1,098                    | 0.02                 |
| Bronchitis... ..                                | Nil                   | Nil                  | 26,479                   | 0.57                 |
| Pneumonia ... ..                                | Nil                   | Nil                  | 24,357                   | 0.53                 |
| Polio-myelitis ... ..                           | Nil                   | Nil                  | 22                       | 0.00                 |
| Coronary and arterio-sclerotic heart disease    | 3                     | 0.66                 | 91,970                   | 2.01                 |
| Cancer of the lung, trachea and bronchus ... .. | 2                     | 0.44                 | 21,992                   | 0.48                 |
| Motor vehicle accidents                         | Nil                   | Nil                  | 6,641                    | 0.14                 |
| All other accidents ...                         | Nil                   | Nil                  | 11,083                   | 0.24                 |

Accidents in the Home (England and Wales)Main causes:-

|                               | <u>Males</u> | <u>Females</u> |
|-------------------------------|--------------|----------------|
| Coal gas poisoning ... ..     | 391          | 526            |
| Other poisoning ... ..        | 160          | 212            |
| Falls ... ..                  | 1,199        | 3,027          |
| Burns and scalds ... ..       | 221          | 432            |
| Choking and suffocation... .. | 285          | 226            |
| Other accidents ... ..        | 220          | 129            |
| All accidents ... ..          | <u>2,476</u> | <u>4,552</u>   |

A recent added cause of fatal asphyxia in young children is the practice of allowing them to play with discarded polythene bags used as wrappers. The Packaging Films Manufacturers' Association have advised distributors that a warning should appear on mattress and pillow covers, etc.

All accidents are preventable with a little extra care and forethought.

MAIN CAUSES OF DEATH

|   | 1957       | 1958       | 1959       | 1960       |
|---|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| (i) Diseases of the heart and circulatory system (Coronary disease) | 23 (39.6%) | 22 (33.8%) | 21 (32.8%) | 21 (36.2%) |
| (ii) Vascular lesions of the nervous system                         | 6 (10.3%)  | 10 (15.3%) | 10 (15.3%) | 3 (5.2%)   |
| (iii) Malignant neoplasms (Cancer)                                  | 11 (18.9%) | 14 (21.5%) | 12 (18.7%) | 13 (22.4%) |
| (Cancer of lung and bronchus)                                       | 13 (22.4%) | 10 (15.3%) | 13 (20.3%) | 12 (20.6%) |
| (iv) Respiratory diseases (excluding tuberculosis)                  | 3 (5.2%)   | 1 (1.5%)   | 2 (3.1%)   | 2 (3.4%)   |
|   | 3 (5.2%)   | 5 (7.7%)   | 5 (7.7%)   | 2 (3.4%)   |





| Year | Estimated<br>Population | Total<br>Live Births |    | Birth Rate<br>England &<br>Wales | Total<br>Deaths |    | Corrected<br>Death<br>Rate | Death Rate<br>England &<br>Wales | Natural Increase<br>or Decrease |
|------|-------------------------|----------------------|----|----------------------------------|-----------------|----|----------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
|      |                         | M                    | F  |                                  | M               | F  |                            |                                  |                                 |
| 1949 | 4,398                   | 37                   | 32 | 69                               | 33              | 33 | 11.7                       | 11.7                             | + 3                             |
| 1950 | 4,506                   | 34                   | 45 | 79                               | 21              | 38 | 9.9                        | 11.6                             | + 20                            |
| 1951 | 4,442                   | 44                   | 58 | 102                              | 20              | 31 | 8.8                        | 12.5                             | + 51                            |
| 1952 | 4,517                   | 37                   | 35 | 72                               | 29              | 33 | 10.5                       | 11.3                             | + 10                            |
| 1953 | 4,570                   | 37                   | 38 | 75                               | 37              | 29 | 11.1                       | 11.4                             | + 9                             |
| 1954 | 4,600                   | 34                   | 47 | 81                               | 29              | 37 | 11.3                       | 11.3                             | + 15                            |
| 1955 | 4,570                   | 22                   | 30 | 52                               | 30              | 26 | 9.6                        | 11.7                             | - 4                             |
| 1956 | 4,550                   | 29                   | 27 | 56                               | 29              | 21 | 9.4                        | 11.7                             | + 6                             |
| 1957 | 4,520                   | 28                   | 32 | 60                               | 31              | 27 | 11.0                       | 11.5                             | + 2                             |
| 1958 | 4,470                   | 25                   | 28 | 53                               | 30              | 35 | 12.4                       | 11.7                             | - 12                            |
| 1959 | 4,470                   | 31                   | 27 | 58                               | 31              | 33 | 12.3                       | 11.6                             | - 6                             |
| 1960 | 4,480                   | 34                   | 23 | 57                               | 30              | 28 | 11.1                       | 11.5                             | - 1                             |

The Corrected Birth and Death Rates pay due regard to the increased proportion of aged persons within the Borough of Rye as compared with England and Wales.

The natural decrease is the difference between births and deaths but having no regard to the influx of new residents.





DETAILED CAUSES OF DEATH

| Cause of death                               | Male | Female | Total |
|--|------|--------|-------|
| Tuberculosis, respiratory ... ..             | 1    | 0      | 1     |
| Malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ... ..     | 6    | 6      | 12    |
| Leukaemia ... ..                             | 0    | 1      | 1     |
| Vascular lesions of the nervous system... .. | 6    | 7      | 13    |
| Coronary disease, angina ... ..              | 3    | 0      | 3     |
| Hypertension with heart disease.. ... ..     | 1    | 3      | 4     |
| Other heart disease... ..                    | 7    | 6      | 13    |
| Other circulatory disease ... ..             | 1    | 0      | 1     |
| Pneumonia ... ..                             | 0    | 2      | 2     |
| Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ... ..    | 0    | 1      | 1     |
| Other defined or ill defined diseases ... .. | 5    | 1      | 6     |
| Suicide ... ..                               | 0    | 1      | 1     |
|  | 30   | 28     | 58    |

DEATHS - 65 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER

|                                      | Borough of Rye |      |      | London (England and Wales<br>not available) |        |        |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|------|------|---|--------|--------|
|                                      | 1958           | 1959 | 1960 | 1958  | 1959   | 1960   |
| Total deaths                         | 65             | 64   | 58   | 38,026                                      | 38,227 | 36,521 |
| No.of deaths<br>65 years and<br>over | 48             | 49   | 43   | 25,870                                      | 25,858 | 24,582 |
| Percentage of<br>total deaths        | 73.8           | 76.5 | 74.1 | 68.0  | 67.6   | 67.3   |

LUNG CANCER AND SMOKINGLung Cancer Deaths in England and Wales

|             |        |
|-------------|--------|
| 1930 ... .. | 1,489  |
| 1957 ... .. | 19,127 |
| 1958 ... .. | 19,809 |
| 1959 ... .. | 21,063 |
| 1960 ... .. | 21,992 |

Lung Cancer, Rates per million living, England and Wales

|             |     |
|-------------|-----|
| 1908 ... .. | 10  |
| 1938 ... .. | 113 |
| 1948 ... .. | 238 |
| 1958 ... .. | 439 |
| 1959 ... .. | 464 |

Cigarette smoking is still considered to be a potent factor in the mounting incidence of lung cancer.





TUBERCULOSIS

|   | Pulmonary cases |   |       | Non-pulmonary cases |   |       | Total Cases (all forms) |    |       |
|---|-----------------|---|-------|---------------------|---|-------|-------------------------|----|-------|
|   | M               | F | Total | M                   | F | Total | M                       | F  | Total |
| 1. Number on Register at 1st January, 1960          | 18              | 5 | 23    | 3                   | 4 | 7     | 21                      | 9  | 30    |
| 2. Cases previously removed and re-notified in 1960 | 1               | - | 1     | -                   | - | -     | 1                       | -  | 1     |
| 3. Primary notifications received in 1960           | 3               | 1 | 4     | 2                   | - | 2     | 5                       | 1  | 6     |
| 4. Cases moved into Borough as transfers in 1960    | -               | - | -     | -                   | - | -     | -                       | -  | -     |
| TOTALS  | 22              | 6 | 28    | 5                   | 4 | 9     | 27                      | 10 | 37    |
| 5. *Cases removed from Register in 1960             | -               | 1 | 1     | 1                   | - | 1     | 1                       | 1  | 2     |
| 6. Number on Register at 31st December, 1960        | 22              | 5 | 27    | 4                   | 4 | 8     | 26                      | 9  | 35    |

\* 1 female pulmonary case transferred to another area, 1 male non-pulmonary case died from causes other than tuberculosis. In addition, one death certificate recorded pulmonary tuberculosis as a cause of death (this does not appear in the above table).

New Cases notified giving age groups, occupations and housing states

| Age     | New Cases<br>(Primary Notifications) |   |               |   | Occupations              | Housing                         |
|---------|--------------------------------------|---|---------------|---|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
|         | Pulmonary                            |   | Non-pulmonary |   |                          |                                 |
|         | M                                    | F | M             | F |                          |                                 |
| 0 - 2   | -                                    | - | -             | - | -                        | -                               |
| 3 - 5   | -                                    | - | -             | - | -                        | -                               |
| 6 - 10  | -                                    | - | -             | - | -                        | -                               |
| 11 - 15 | 1                                    | - | 1             | - | Schoolboy<br>Schoolboy   | Owner/occupied<br>Council house |
| 16 - 25 | -                                    | - | -             | - | -                        | -                               |
| 26 - 35 | 1                                    | - | 1             | - | Royal Navy<br>Inn Keeper | Owner/occupied<br>Inn           |
| 36 - 45 | -                                    | 1 | -             | - | Houswife                 | Council house                   |
| 46 - 60 | -                                    | - | -             | - | -                        | -                               |
| Over 60 | 1                                    | - | -             | - | Concrete<br>Labourer     | Lodger                          |





MASS MINIATURE RADIOGRAPHY

The result of the survey carried out in the Borough of Rye in February, 1960 is shown below:-

| <u>Number of persons X-rayed</u> | <u>Population</u> | <u>Percentage of population<br/>X-rayed</u> |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|---|
| Male .. .. 156)                  | 4,480             | 6.9   |
| Female .. .. 155)                |                   |   |

|  | <u>Male</u> | <u>Female</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|--|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| Tuberculosis requiring occasional clinical supervision | 1           | 0             | 1            |

Deaths from Respiratory Tuberculosis (England and Wales)

|              |        |
|--------------|--------|
| 1949 .. .. . | 17,559 |
| 1958 .. .. . | 3,999  |
| 1959 .. .. . | 3,475  |
| 1960 .. .. . | 3,094  |

Deaths from respiratory tuberculosis show a reduction of over 80% since 1949.

It is interesting to note the impact of preventive measures in this country as compared with others.

Tuberculosis Death Rates per 100,000 population (Demographic Year Book, United Nations)

|                               |      |
|-------------------------------|------|
| England and Wales.. .. .      | 8.9  |
| United States of America.. .. | 7.3  |
| Canada .. .. .                | 5.2  |
| Australia.. .. .              | 5.1  |
| Ireland .. .. .               | 17.6 |
| France .. .. .                | 21.7 |
| Denmark .. .. .               | 3.8  |
| Sweden .. .. .                | 7.8  |
| Netherlands .. .. .           | 3.4  |
| Japan .. .. .                 | 35.3 |

There is no doubt that this dramatic trend could be accelerated if the older age groups would avail themselves of Mass Miniature Radiography.

As in all health investigations, it is vitally important to treat any deviations from health as soon as possible; early discovery makes successful treatment more likely.

Mass Miniature Radiography not only discloses early tubercular lesions but other abnormal conditions of the heart and lungs which are now amenable to treatment.

Mass Miniature Radiography in Industry

A completely mobile, self-contained Mass X-Ray Unit is available to visit any premises employing 100 persons or more in the East Sussex area. The only facility required is a parking site for two vehicles.

Over 100 people can be given free chest X-ray examinations in a period of one hour and as there is no undressing, both men and women can be X-rayed at the same session. Arrangements can be made either by telephone to Brighton 66017 or by letter to the Director, East Sussex Mass Radiography Unit, 26, Ditchling Road, Brighton, 7.

It is emphasised that the Mass X-ray service is free and that no information is disclosed without the patient's consent.





CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN AGE GROUPS, 1960

| Age               | Scarlet fever | Pneumonia | Erysipelas | Whooping cough | Measles | Puerperal pyrexia | Total |
|-------------------|---------------|-----------|------------|----------------|---------|-------------------|-------|
| Under 1 year      | -             | -         | -          | 1              | -       | -                 | 1     |
| 1 - 2 years       | 1             | 1         | -          | -              | 2       | -                 | 4     |
| 3 - 4 years       | 2             | -         | -          | -              | -       | -                 | 2     |
| 5 - 9 years       | 1             | 1         | -          | 1              | 3       | -                 | 6     |
| 10 - 14 years     | -             | -         | -          | -              | 1       | -                 | 1     |
| 15-44 years       | -             | -         | -          | -              | -       | 2                 | 2     |
| 45 - 64 years     | -             | -         | 3          | 1              | -       | -                 | 4     |
| 65 years and over | -             | -         | 1          | 1              | -       | -                 | 2     |
| Total             | 4             | 2         | 4          | 4              | 6       | 2                 | 22    |

SEASONAL INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES DURING 1960

|                   | JAN | FEB | MAR | APR | MAY | JUN | JUL | AUG | SEP | OCT | NOV | DEC | TOTAL |
|-------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| Scarlet fever     | 2   | -   | -   | -   | -   | -   | 1   | -   | -   | -   | -   | 1   | 4     |
| Pneumonia         | -   | -   | -   | -   | -   | -   | 1   | -   | -   | -   | -   | 1   | 2     |
| Erysipelas        | 1   | 1   | -   | -   | -   | 1   | -   | -   | -   | 1   | -   | -   | 4     |
| Whooping cough    | -   | -   | -   | 1   | -   | 2   | -   | 1   | -   | -   | -   | -   | 4     |
| Measles           | -   | -   | -   | 1   | -   | 1   | -   | -   | -   | -   | -   | 4   | 6     |
| Puerperal pyrexia | -   | -   | -   | -   | 1   | 1   | -   | -   | -   | -   | -   | -   | 2     |
| Total             | 3   | 1   | -   | 2   | 1   | 5   | 2   | 1   | -   | 1   | -   | 6   | 22    |

INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASESPoliomyelitis

Fortunately no cases were recorded in this Borough. The much decreased incidence in England and Wales generally must be accepted as a tribute to the preventive action of polio vaccination.

Poliomyelitis is no longer a disease specifically affecting the very young and therefore the availability of vaccination for older groups is excellent value. One can only deplore the apathy of parents who do not take advantage of this scheme to protect themselves and their children. A crippled parent is a liability to the family unit which can and should be avoided.

Diphtheria

There have been isolated pockets of infection in other areas but fortunately we have continued to be free for the past 15 years.

These outbreaks have occurred, in the main, in the unimmunised and where percentages of protected children are low. This is a warning that this killing and disabling disease can only be kept at bay by pursuing our immunisation campaign and aiming at 100% protection. We cannot afford to be complacent. Parents are duty bound to facilitate protection for their children.





INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES  
(Continued)

Measles

The incidence of measles was again reduced during the year but the number of notifications in December, 1960, was a foretaste of the increased number of cases to be expected in 1961.

Over 90% of the population are affected sometime in their lives. The reduced number in one year is usually followed by a marked increase in the next year. A protective vaccine is in process of being perfected with field trials in 1961.

Whooping cough

The small number of notifications in 1960 is a continuation of the favourable trend which must be attributed to immunisation against this infection.

INCIDENCE OF WHOOPING COUGH IN CHILDREN WHO HAVE BEEN IMMUNISED

|              | 1956  |                          |                         | 1957  |                          |                         | 1958  |                          |                         | 1959  |                          |                         | 1960  |                          |                         |
|--------------|-------|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
|              | Cases | Notified cases immunised | Immunisations performed | Cases | Notified cases immunised | Immunisations performed | Cases | Notified cases immunised | Immunisations performed | Cases | Notified cases immunised | Immunisations performed | Cases | Notified cases immunised | Immunisations performed |
| Under 1 year | -     | -                        | 37                      | -     | -                        | 39                      | 1     | -                        | 42                      | -     | -                        | -                       | 1     | -                        | -                       |
| 1 - 2        | 1     | -                        | 8                       | -     | -                        | 12                      | 3     | 2                        | 10                      | 1     | -                        | 56                      | -     | -                        | 65                      |
| 3 - 4        | -     | -                        |                         | -     | -                        |                         | 5     | 3                        |                         | -     | -                        |                         | -     | -                        |                         |
| 5 - 9        | 1     | -                        | -                       | 1     | 1                        | 1                       | 7     | -                        | 3                       | -     | -                        | 2                       | 1     | -                        | 6                       |
| 10 - 14      | -     | -                        | -                       | -     | -                        | -                       | 7     | -                        | -                       | -     | -                        |                         | -     | -                        |                         |
| Totals       | 2     | -                        | 45                      | 1     | 1                        | 52                      | 23    | 5                        | 55                      | 1     | -                        | 58                      | 2     | -                        | 71                      |

Scarlet Fever

Mild in character and of no special significance, no cases were admitted to hospital. The usual investigations were made in each case regarding the possibility of food handlers being involved and where indicated alternative work was advised and accepted.

Food poisoning

There were no notifications relating to dysentery or food poisoning, during the current year.

Influenza

Prevalent in the Midland and North-West Regions where A2 strains were isolated but fortunately this area was hardly affected.

No deaths were recorded in the Borough of Rye, and this is reflected, in some measure, in the diminished number of pneumonia notifications.

Deaths in England and Wales were 1,098, the lowest number this century.





INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES  
(Continued)

Conjunctivitis

Conjunctivitis in schools exemplifies a difficulty encountered with a condition which is normally rapidly amenable to correct treatment. A small residue of apathetic parents with poor standards do not seek medical advice, others use home remedies, thus perpetuating and spreading the infection.

One of the deterrents, militating against their seeking treatment from their own doctors, is possibly the prescription charge.

COMPARATIVE STATISTICS FOR THE YEARS 1955 - 1960  
1st January - 31st December

|                   | 1955 | 1956 | 1957 | 1958 | 1959 | 1960 |
|-------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Scarlet fever     | 7    | -    | 1    | 3    | 1    | 4    |
| Measles           | 74   | 16   | -    | 115  | 10   | 6    |
| Pneumonia         | 12   | 16   | 18   | 8    | 7    | 2    |
| Erysipelas        | 3    | 5    | 3    | 2    | 2    | 4    |
| Whooping cough    | 66   | 2    | 1    | 23   | 1    | 4    |
| Dysentery         | -    | 62   | -    | -    | -    | -    |
| Puerperal pyrexia | -    | -    | -    | 1    | 1    | 2    |





PERIODS OF EXCLUSION IN CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION RECOMMENDATIONS

|   | Usual Incubation period (days)   | Interval between onset and appearance of rash (days) | Period of Exclusion  |  |
|---|--|--|--|--|
|   |  |  | Patients   | Contacts, i.e. the other members of the family or household living together as a family, that is, in one tenement.   |
| SCARLET FEVER AND STREPTOCOCCAL SORE THROAT     | 1-7  | 1-2  | Exclude from school 7 days after discharge from hospital or from home isolation. Not allowed back if discharge from the nose or ear, sore throat or septic spots be present. | Adult contacts engaged in school meals service excluded until Medical Officer of Health allows return to work. Other contacts, if healthy, need not be excluded.   |
| DIPHTHERIA                                      | 2-7  | -  | Until pronounced by a medical practitioner to be free from infection.  | At least 7 days. Return to school should not be permitted until bacteriological examination has proved negative.   |
| MEASLES   | 7-14   | 3-4  | 10 days after the appearance of the rash if the child appears well.  | Children under 5 years of age who have not had the disease should be excluded for 14 days from the date of the appearance of the rash in the last case in the house. Other contacts can attend school. Any contact suffering from a cough, cold, chill or red eyes should be immediately excluded. |
| GERMAN MEASLES                                  | 5-21   | 0-2  | 7 days from the appearance of the rash.  | None.  |
| WHOOPING COUGH                                  | 6-18   | -  | 28 days from the beginning of the characteristic cough.  | Children under 7 years who have not had the disease should be excluded for 21 days from the date of onset of the disease in the last case in the house.  |
| MUMPS   | 12-28  | -  | 7 days from the subsidence of the swelling.  | None.  |
| CHICKEN POX                                     | 11-21  | 0-2  | 14 days from the date of appearance of the rash.   | None.  |
| INFLUENZA AND THE COMMON COLD                   | 1-2  | -  | Exclude immediately for 7 days or until recovery is complete.  | None.  |
| RINGWORM OF THE BODY (including ATHLETE'S FOOT) | If the infected area can be kept covered the patient need not be excluded. He should not, however, take part in swimming - nor in the case of ringworm of the feet - in gymnastic classes or barefoot dancing. |  |  |  |





DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX

The annual figures for 1960 are made available by the Local Health Authority and this is the first full working year since delegation to your Medical Officer of Health ceased.

Diphtheria Immunisation

The results of this life saving measure in England and Wales can be seen at a glance in the table below.

| <u>Year</u>  | <u>Deaths</u> | <u>Corrected notifications</u> |
|--------------|---------------|--------------------------------|
| 1941 .. .. . | 2,641         | 50,797                         |
| 1959 .. .. . | Nil           | 123                            |
| 1960 .. .. . | 5             | 53                             |

The occurrence of 5 deaths is a serious warning that this disease is still a killer and only held at bay by protective immunisation.

Neglect and apathy can still exact their toll.

|  | <u>Age</u><br>at date of final injection (as regards<br>(a)) or of reinforcing injection(b) |               |                |              |
|--|---|---------------|----------------|--------------|
|  | <u>under 1</u>  | <u>1 to 4</u> | <u>5 to 14</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|  |   |               |                |              |
| (a) Number of children who completed a full course of PRIMARY IMMUNISATION in the Borough of Rye during 1960 | 54  | 13            | 9              | 76           |
| (b) Number of children who received a SECONDARY (reinforcing) injection during 1960                          | -   | 1             | 31             | 32           |

Number of children in Rye Borough on 31st December, 1960 who have completed a course of diphtheria immunisation at any time between 1st January, 1946 and 31st December, 1960.

| <u>Age on 31.12.1960</u><br>(i.e. born in year)  | <u>Under 1</u><br>1960 | <u>1 - 4</u><br>1956 - 1959 | <u>5 - 9</u><br>1951 - 1955 | <u>10 - 14</u><br>1946 - 1950 | <u>Under 15</u><br>Total |
|--|------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| (a) Number of children whose last course (Primary or booster) was completed in the period 1956-1960        | 25                     | 203                         | 304                         | 310                           | 842                      |
| (b) Number of children whose last course (Primary or booster) was completed in the period 1955 or earlier. | -                      | -                           | 56                          | 51                            | 107                      |





Whooping Cough

|   | <u>0-4 years</u> | <u>5-14 years</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|---|------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Primary course (normally three injections) singly or in combination | 65               | 6                 | 71           |

The majority of these injections were given in combination with diphtheria antigen.

VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX

The following persons were vaccinated against smallpox in 1960:-

|                     | <u>Under<br/>1 year</u> | <u>1</u> | <u>2 to 4</u> | <u>5 to 14</u> | <u>15 or over</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|---------------------|-------------------------|----------|---------------|----------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Primary vaccination | 39                      | -        | 1             | 2              | 2                 | 44           |
| Re-vaccination      | -                       | -        | -             | 3              | 40                | 43           |

The speed of air travel makes the likelihood of the introduction of smallpox an ever-present possibility. Parents are exhorted to agree to vaccination during the early months of childhood in order that their children may achieve full protection as early as possible with the minimum of inconvenience.





GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE BOROUGH(A) PROVIDED BY THE EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL UNDER THE REGIS OF THE COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH(i) Ambulance Service

|          | <u>Cases</u> | <u>Mileage</u> | <u>Cases</u> | <u>Mileage</u> | <u>Cases</u> | <u>Mileage</u> |
|----------|--------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|
| Illness  | 1,147)       | 23,052         | 4,573)       | 45,833         | 4,953)       | 40,551         |
| Accident | 214)         |                | 168)         |                | 137)         |                |

(ii) Care of Expectant and Nursing Mothers and Children under School Age(iii) Contraceptive Advice

Subject to the limitation that advice is only given where pregnancy or childbirth is liable to be injurious to the health of the mother, arrangements are made for contraceptive advice to be given to married women at a clinic arranged by Hastings Corporation.

(iv) District Nurses (Midwives) and Health Visitors(v) Home Help Service

It is likely that 10 - 20% of the aged are living alone, having no immediate relatives and very few friends.

The Home Help Service is a boon to these elderly folk giving them contact with the outer world and enabling them to remain in their own homes.

There is no doubt that an efficient Home Help Service avoids and delays institutionalism.

(vi) Hospital Car Service

The Hospital Car Service in this county is provided by the joint organisation of the British Red Cross Society and the St. John Ambulance Brigade. The Area Transport Office for this district is at 8, Endwell Road, Bexhill-on-Sea (Telephone Bexhill 152).

(vii) Infant Welfare Centre

The Infant Welfare Centre is held on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays in every month at the Youth Club Centre, Lion Street, Rye.

(viii) Immunisation and Vaccination Service

Please refer to pages 13 and 14.

(ix) Poliomyelitis Vaccination Service

Regular clinics are held on the 3rd Monday in the month at the Further Education Centre, Lion Street, Rye, at 2.15 p.m.

(x) B.C.G. Vaccination of School Children from 13 years.(xi) Mental Health Service





GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE BOROUGH  
(Continued)

(xii) Registration of Nursing Homes

There are no registered Nursing Homes in the Borough of Rye.

(xiii) School Dental Service

(xiv) School Medical Service (\*Routine medical examinations including the assessment of handicapped pupils)

\*The District Medical Officer of Health acts as School Medical Officer.

(B) HOSPITALS

The following are the main hospitals providing accommodation and treatment for residents in the Borough of Rye:-

Darvell Hall Hospital, Robertsbridge.  
Battle Hospital, Battle.  
Memorial Hospital, Rye Foreign.  
Royal East Sussex Hospital, Hastings (including V. D. Clinic).  
Mount Pleasant Isolation Hospital, Hastings.  
St.Helen's Hospital, Hastings.  
Fernbank Maternity Home, Hastings.  
Buchanan Hospital, St.Leonards-on-Sea.  
Eversfield Chest Hospital, St.Leonards-on-Sea.  
Hellingly Hospital, Hellingly.  
Penbury Hospital, Penbury.  
Hill House, Rye Foreign.

Administered by the South-Eastern Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board through their respective Hospital Management Committees.

(C) PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY SERVICE

The Public Health Laboratory Service is a free national laboratory service designed to assist all those concerned in the diagnosis, prevention and control of communicable diseases. The benefits are not limited by health authority, hospital region or other administrative boundary. These facilities are available to all doctors, both for the submission of specimens and for consultation.

Gamma globulin, prepared from pooled plasma from normal healthy adults by the Lister Institute for the Ministry of Health, is distributed to doctors in England and Wales through laboratories of the Public Health Laboratory Service. Requests for supplies should be made to the Director of the nearest laboratory of the Service. So far as supplies allow, it is issued for the protection of susceptible contacts of measles, rubella and poliomyelitis as shown on the following page:-





GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE BOROUGH(Continued)Gamma globulin (cont)DiseaseAvailable forUsual Dosage  
Prevention

Measles

- (i) Control of hospital and institutional outbreaks
- (ii) Persons suffering from intercurrent illness or living in a poor environment for whom an attack of measles would be dangerous

3 years and over -  
750 mg.  
1 - 2 years 500 mg.  
Under 1 year 250 mg.

Rubella

Women exposed to infection in the first 4 months of pregnancy

1,500 mg. divided into 2 doses (one in each buttock)  
(No need for refrigeration)

Protection is immediate providing no rash has appeared and lasts 2 - 3 weeks, no side effects. Optimum prevention is up to first week after exposure.

Poliomyelitis

- (i) Babies in hospital or maternity home exposed to infection soon after birth. Under 1 year 500 mg.
- (ii) Unprotected children in a hospital ward in which a case develops - especially children who have recently undergone tonsillectomy. 1-6 years 1.0 g.  
7 years & over 1.5g.

In addition, a small stock of gamma globulin prepared from blood of persons recently vaccinated against smallpox is held for the treatment of cases of generalised vaccinia, accidental vaccinal infections endangering the eye and in special circumstances, for the protection of unvaccinated smallpox contacts.

The address of the nearest laboratory is the Public Health Laboratory, Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton (Telephone, Brighton 63506, Director - Doctor J. E. Jameson).

(D) NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1949

- (i) Section 47: Removal to Suitable Premises of Persons in Need of Care and Attention

No action was necessary under this Section during 1960.

- (ii) Section 50: Burial or Cremation of the Dead

No action was necessary.

(E) HOME PHYSIOTHERAPY SERVICE

This Service fulfils a worthwhile function by allowing needy patients to be treated in the comfort of their own homes, a great boon to the elderly and generally incapacitated.

The Physiotherapy Service relies for its continuance on the voluntary efforts of its Committees and the goodwill of the public in supplying the necessary monies. £1,250 per annum is the estimated cost of maintaining a qualified physiotherapist with a fully equipped van.

(F) NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO CHILDREN

Liaison has been maintained with mutual benefit.





GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE BOROUGH  
(Continued)

(G) MEALS ON WHEELS

This valuable Service continues to maintain the nutrition and morale of the recipients, enabling the elderly to remain in their own homes with the added interest of regular visitors, thus making an important contribution to preserving their mental health and happiness.

(H) BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE

The National Blood Transfusion Service visits Rye periodically.

More local publicity should be given to this valuable Service.

Stamped addressed leaflets for volunteer donors (self-explanatory) are available at the Council Offices.

HOUSING THE ELDERLY

The national average of persons per house has decreased from 3.3 to 3.0 in the past 10 years, which is possibly accentuated in an area of this type where there are so many retired people.

Although the number of rateable premises has increased markedly over the years, the population has not had a commensurate upsurge and this may be due to the fact that the numbers of persons per house have decreased.

There must still be emphasis on housing for the elderly as the following trend would indicate. The proportion of people over 65 in England and Wales rose from 4.7% at the beginning of the century to 11.8% in 1959, and it is likely to reach 14.8% in 1978.

In 1959 in England and Wales the estimated home population per 1,000 was composed as follows:-

| <u>Age</u> |    |    |    |    |    | <u>Proportion per 1,000</u> |
|------------|----|----|----|----|----|-----------------------------|
| 0-         | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 76                          |
| 5-         | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 72                          |
| 10-        | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 81                          |
| 15-        | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 65                          |
| 20-        | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 62                          |
| 25-        | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 130                         |
| 35-        | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 139                         |
| 45-        | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 142                         |
| 55-        | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 115                         |
| 65-        | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 76                          |
| 75-        | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 36                          |
| 85+        | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 6                           |

This means nearly two million are now aged 75 years or over and more than a quarter of a million aged 85 or more, there are twice as many women as men in these advanced age groups.

One bedroomed dwellings represented just over 25% of all local authority house building in England and Wales in 1960, compared with 22% in 1959 and 10% five years ago.





MILK PRODUCTION

The following is an estimate of the designated and non-designated farms in the district surrounding the Borough of Rye:-

|      | Tuberculin Tested milk |            | Non-designated milk |            |
|------|------------------------|------------|---------------------|------------|
|      | Farms                  | Percentage | Farms               | Percentage |
| 1956 | 239                    | 67.51      | 115                 | 32.49      |
| 1957 | 281                    | 81.21      | 65                  | 18.79      |
| 1958 | 309                    | 91.42      | 29                  | 8.58       |
| 1959 | 327                    | 95.34      | 16                  | 4.66       |
| 1960 | 319                    | 97.25      | 9                   | 2.75       |

It will be observed that the number of milk producing farms shows a reduction since last year.

I am reliably informed that this is due to smaller farms going out of milk production in favour of other more rewarding farming enterprises which do not necessitate the same labour force and obviate the daily drudgery of milking a small herd.

This trend has not reduced milk production, the tendency being to keep more cows with resultant overall economies.

The percentage of Tuberculin Tested milk produced has continued to increase, this is most satisfactory as it means that not only must the farmer have a tuberculin tested herd but dairy buildings, water supply and production methods must be of high standard.

Despite this high standard it must be realised that the cow is not a machine that can be kept sterile and that other organisms potentially dangerous to health can be excreted with the milk even though bovine tuberculosis may be absent, but even here reactors may, from time to time, be found in the best regulated herds and it could be some time before they were discovered.

The Brucella group of organisms is endemic in the cattle of this country, it is estimated that at least 15% of all herds are infected.

In raw milk drinkers this may give rise to fevers of long or short duration, with general ill-health, diagnosis is difficult and usually only confirmed when the condition is sufficiently serious to cause admission to hospital.

Pasteurised milk is therefore the only safe milk, the visible cream line may be reduced by one-seventh but this fraction is still present in the bulk of the milk and the nutritional properties have not been impaired in any way. If bacteria are present in a bottle of raw milk then the creamy top portion contains many times the number of bacteria found in the remaining portion of the milk.

The Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1960

The issue of licences to producers of T.T milk will continue to be the responsibility of the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food, but the issue of dealers' licences for the sale of specially designated milk will be made the responsibility of the Food and Drugs Authority (East Sussex County Council).





MILK PRODUCTION  
(Continued)

Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1960

These Regulations came into operation on 1st October, 1960, as regards producers' licences, and will operate from 1st January, 1961, as regards dealers' licences.

INDUSTRIES

The numbers engaged in the main industries located in the Borough are given below:-

|                                   | As at 31st December, 1960 |        |       | As at 31st<br>December<br>1959<br>Total |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|--------|-------|---|
|                                   | Male                      | Female | Total |   |
| Aerated Water Manufacturers... .. | 6                         | 3      | 9     | 7                                       |
| Bedding Makers ... ..             | 3                         | -      | 3     | 4                                       |
| Builders ... ..                   | 96                        | -      | 96    | 98                                      |
| Catering and Bakeries ... ..      | 18                        | 24     | 42    | 52                                      |
| Cinema ... ..                     | 5                         | 8      | 13    | 15                                      |
| Corn Chandlers ... ..             | 20                        | 3      | 23    | 9                                       |
| Dairymen ... ..                   | 13                        | 4      | 17    | -                                       |
| Engineering Works ... ..          | 284                       | 17     | 301   | 207                                     |
| Furniture Removers ... ..         | 12                        | 3      | 15    | 13                                      |
| Hotels ... ..                     | 44                        | 16     | 60    | 23                                      |
| Laundries ... ..                  | 9                         | 40     | 49    | 70                                      |
| Nurserymen ... ..                 | 2                         | -      | 2     | 2                                       |
| Pottery Works ... ..              | 13                        | 14     | 27    | 11                                      |
| Printing Works ... ..             | 11                        | 8      | 19    | 18                                      |
| Sawmills ... ..                   | 8                         | 1      | 9     | 17                                      |
| Ship Repairing ... ..             | 3                         | -      | 3     | 4                                       |
| Toy Manufacturers ... ..          | 21                        | 85     | 106   | 111                                     |
| Wastepaper Sorters ... ..         | 2                         | -      | 2     | 3                                       |

Shop-keeping and Catering

Shop-keeping and catering are two mainstays which contribute greatly to the prosperity of this attractive town and emphasise the necessity for effective supervision from the hygienic point of view.

Customers generally receive the standard of hygiene that they are willing to accept. If they are alert, public spirited and knowledgeable as to what constitutes good hygiene then they will cease to patronise those shops and catering establishments

There is no doubt that such an attitude of mind would soon achieve high standards and make food handlers conscious of their obligation to provide a clean, wholesome product.





INDUSTRIES  
(Continued)

Shop-keeping and Catering

What should one note?

1. General tidiness and cleanliness.
2. Absence of flies.
3. Cleanliness of food handlers - clothes and person including hands and nails.
4. The "no touch" technique, minimal handling.
5. Cuts on hands should be covered with clean strapping.
6. No touching of face, nose and hair prior to handling food.
7. No smoking while serving.
8. Food on display should be protected from droplets of saliva when speaking, coughing or sneezing.

Rye Market

The Market occupies a prominent position in the life of Rye.

It is not possible to give the numbers of agricultural workers in the Borough of Rye as a separate entity; the following table shows the numbers engaged in an area covered by Hastings County Borough, the Boroughs of Bexhill and Rye, and the Rural District of Battle (excluding Burwash and Ticehurst).

| Year | Men   | Women | Total |
|------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1957 | 2,160 | 493   | 2,653 |
| 1958 | 1,858 | 451   | 2,309 |
| 1959 | 1,558 | 434   | 1,992 |
| 1960 | 1,621 | 469   | 2,090 |

The following numbers of live stock sold in Rye Market during 1960 are indicative of the activity on Market days when farmers from near and far gather in large numbers to buy and sell, the Romney Marsh sheep being world famous and the fatstock generally of excellent quality:-

|                    |       |                             |        |
|--------------------|-------|-----------------------------|--------|
| Fat cattle.. ..    | 2,210 | Fat sheep and lambs.. ..    | 29,237 |
| Store cattle .. .. | 28    | Store sheep and lambs .. .. | 6,497  |
| Calves.. ..        | 525   | Fat pigs. .. ..             | 4,218  |
|                    |       | Store pigs.. ..             | 67     |

Port of Rye

30 vessels are registered at the Port of Rye.

4 foreign ships brought cargoes of timber.

21 yachts from overseas (pleasure craft) used Rye berthing facilities.

It has been ascertained that there are 105 vessels engaged in fishing between Bexhill and Dungeness. They make use of the facilities available from time to time.





SECTION II

The following table gives a general summary of the visits and work carried out by the Public Health Inspector during the year 1960:-

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Visits to houses re housing defects...                    | 111 |
| " " houses re other than housing defects ...              | 10  |
| " " factories...  | 5   |
| " " farms...  | 4   |
| " " moveable dwellings ...                                | 2   |
| " " streams and ditches ...                               | 15  |
| " " upholsterers ...                                      | 1   |
| " " verminous premises ...                                | 7   |
| " " work places ...                                       | 2   |
| " " bakehouses ...  | 6   |
| " " butchers shops ...                                    | 10  |
| " " ice-cream premises ...                                | 15  |
| " " licensed premises...                                  | 20  |
| " " restaurants and kitchens ...                          | 24  |
| " " other food premises ...                               | 6   |
| Visits re infectious diseases ...                         | 9   |
| " " insects and pests...                                  | 8   |
| " " keeping of animals ...                                | 1   |
| " " rats and/or mice infestations...                      | 11  |
| " " Shops Act...  | 10  |
| " " smoke nuisances ...                                   | 8   |
| " " water supply ...                                      | 3   |
| Visits to Council owned properties ...                    | 449 |
| Interviews respecting properties ...                      | 32  |
| Premises disinfected ...                                  | 7   |
| Water test to drains ...                                  | 15  |
| Informal notices served re houses ...                     | 6   |
| Houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action ... | 5   |

ICE CREAM

There are 26 premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, for the sale of ice cream which is all sold pre-packed.

There are no manufacturers of ice cream within the Borough.

EXAMINATION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

The following is a list of foods inspected during the year and certified as unfit for human consumption:-

|                         | <u>Stones</u> | <u>Lbs</u> | <u>Ozs</u> |
|-------------------------|---------------|------------|------------|
| Meat...                 | 3             | 10         | -          |
| Meat (canned)...        | 14            | 6          | -          |
| Fruit (canned) ...      | -             | 13         | 2          |
| Vegetables (canned) ... | -             | 2          | -          |
| Cereals - 4 packets ... |               |            |            |
|                         | <u>19</u>     | <u>3</u>   | <u>2</u>   |

FOOD PREMISES

It is encouraging to note that several of the food premises in the town have carried out major alterations which, undoubtedly, have improved not only the display value of the shop but increased, beyond measure, standards of hygiene and it is hoped that many more owners will effect similar works.

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS

The following are in operation:-

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Dealers Licences for "Pasteurised" milk...                                       | 12 |
| Dealers Licences for "Sterilised" milk ...                                       | 11 |
| Dealers Licences for "Tuberculin Tested" milk ...                                | 4  |
| Dealers Licences (Supplementary) for<br>"Pasteurised" and "Sterilised" milks ... | 1  |

12 samples were taken for laboratory examination and passed the prescribed tests.





(23)  
HOUSING

The following information is in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health:-

1. Inspection of dwellinghouses during the year

|         |   |    |
|---------|---|----|
| (i) (a) | Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under the Public Health or Housing Acts)...   | 43 |
| (b)     | Number of inspections made for this purpose ...   | 70 |
| (ii)(a) | Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-head (i) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 ...      | -  |
| (b)     | Number of inspections made for this purpose ...   | -  |
| (iii)   | Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...                                       | 6  |
| (iv)    | Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... | -  |

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of Formal Notice

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers... | 4 |
|---|---|

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year

(A) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 & 12 of the Housing Act, 1957:-

|       |  |   |
|-------|--|---|
| (i)   | Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs         | - |
| (ii)  | Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of Formal Notices:-         |   |
| (a)   | By owners ...  | - |
| (b)   | By Local Authority in default of owners ...  | - |
| (iii) | Number of dwellinghouses acquired and subsequently rendered fit by the Local Authority ... | - |

(B) Proceedings under the Public Health Acts:-

|      |   |   |
|------|---|---|
| (i)  | Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | - |
| (ii) | Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of Formal Notices:-         |   |
| (a)  | By Owners ...   | - |
| (b)  | By Local Authority in default of owner ...  | - |

(C) Proceedings under Sections 16 and 17 of the Housing Act, 1957:-

|     |   |   |
|-----|---|---|
| (i) | Number of representations, etc., made in respect of dwellinghouses unfit for habitation ... | 6 |
|-----|---|---|





HOUSING  
(Cont)

|   |    |
|---|----|
| (ii) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made...  | .. |
| (iii) Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ...   | -  |
| (iv) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which undertakings were accepted from owners:-  |    |
| (a) To render the house fit for human habitation..  | 8  |
| (b) As to usage other than for human habitation...  | -  |
| (v) Closing Orders under the Housing Act, 1957 ...  | 4  |
| (vi) Number of Houses dealt with under Housing Act, 1957, Section 17(3) ...   | -  |
| (D) <u>Proceedings under Section 18 of the Housing Act, 1957</u>  |    |
| (i) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made  | -  |
| (ii) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or rooms having been rendered fit ... | -  |

#### 4. Rye Corporation Houses

In the last year's report, it was stated that the Council proposed to erect a further 70 houses on Tilling Green Estate, Rye, a proportion of which were to be used for rehousing tenants from sub-standard properties. Unfortunately, the Ministry reduced this figure by almost half and, in fact, a scheme was later confirmed by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government for the erection of 38 dwellings incorporating 12 x 1-bedroom flats and 26 x 2 & 3-bedroom houses. The construction of these houses is due to commence early in 1961.

### FACTORIES ACT, 1937

#### 1. Inspections

|  | Number<br>on<br>Register | Number of  |                  |                      |
|--|--------------------------|------------|------------------|----------------------|
|  |                          | Inspection | Informal Notices | Occupiers Prosecuted |
| 1. Factories in which sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority   | 9                        | 4          | -                | -                    |
| 2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority | 43                       | 2          | -                | -                    |





FACTORIES ACT, 1937  
(Continued)

2. Cases in which defects were found:-

| Particulars                       | Number of cases in which defects were |          |                               |                   |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------|-------------------------------|-------------------|
|                                   | Found                                 | Remedied | Referred by<br>H.M. Inspector | Prosec-<br>utions |
| Want of Cleanliness               | -                                     | -        | -                             | -                 |
| Overcrowding                      | -                                     | -        | -                             | -                 |
| Unreasonable temperature          | -                                     | -        | -                             | -                 |
| Inadequate ventilation            | -                                     | -        | -                             | -                 |
| Inadequate drainage of floors     | -                                     | -        | -                             | -                 |
| Sanitary Accommodation (offences) | -                                     | -        | -                             | -                 |

There are no Outworkers under Section 110(1)(c)

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Number of properties inspected as a result of complaints...     | 141 |
| Number of properties inspected by survey...                     | 101 |
| Number of properties found to be infested by rats ...           | 92  |
| Number of properties treated by Council's Operator for rats ... | 103 |
| Number of properties treated by Occupier for rats ...           | -   |
| Number of visits by Rodent Operator ...                         | 400 |

All infestations were of a minor character.

A Rodent Operator, employed part-time, is engaged on this work and his duties also include the treatment of the town sewers and the refuse tip.

Sewer Treatment

Two sewer treatments were carried out during the months of June and October. It is obvious that, due to the unsatisfactory state of the sewers, coupled with the fact that the discharge is into a tidal basin, when heavy rainfall occurs there is little virtue in carryout out treatments, for during these periods, the sewers and manholes on the main trunk sewer are, for prolonged periods, surcharged with water and sewage, in many cases only inches from the top of manholes. This was very apparent during the last quarter of the year when, as will be seen from the rainfall figures, conditions were extremely bad.

Out of the 35 manholes which were treated only one complete take was discovered and 17 part takes during the two sewer treatments.

WATER SUPPLY

During 1959 extremely heavy demands were made on the two boreholes and spring supply water to the Borough and, although 1960 was not as high, nevertheless, there were periods during the summer months when demand increased considerably and it is gratifying to note that the supply during the full twelve months exceeded the demand. As will be seen from the figures below 93,102,000 gallons were supplied during the year, this amount being obtained from the boreholes at the Cadborough Waterworks and the springs in Military Road.





Fortnightly samples were sent to the Public Health Laboratories at Brighton for bacteriological analysis, consisting of one bottle of untreated water; one from the storage tower, after treatment, and one from a distribution point, usually a household tap within the Borough. All samples, following chlorination proved to be satisfactory but three samples of raw water indicated comparatively higher counts than normal. Of the 23 untreated samples which were submitted, counts for Yeastrel, coliform bacilli and bact.coli, were 'less than 1'. The three samples which showed positive counts occurred in May, November and December. Although investigations were carried out to ascertain the cause for the increase, it was impossible to isolate any fault but, nevertheless, the chlorine dosage was increased until the following sample proved that such contamination had ceased.

The consumption of water for all purposes during the year is as follows:-

|                                   |                            |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| From Cadborough Waterworks...     | 74,852,000 gallons.        |
| From Military Road Waterworks ... | <u>18,250,000 gallons.</u> |
| Total:                            | <u>93,102,000</u>          |

Taken from Hastings ... ..

The distribution of water was as follows:-

| <u>1959</u>       |                            | <u>1960</u>       |
|-------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|
| 81,939,750        | Borough of Rye             | 82,244,170        |
| -                 | Hastings C.B (Rye Harbour) | -                 |
| 10,519,000        | Battle R.D.C (Playden)     | 10,852,000        |
| <u>9,050</u>      | Standpipe                  | <u>5,850</u>      |
| <u>92,467,800</u> |                            | <u>93,102,000</u> |

#### DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The automatic ejectors lifted the following amounts of sewage:-

|                                    |                           |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Station A. Cadborough Marsh...     | 1,185,000 gallons         |
| Station B. Winchelsea Road ...     | 29,436,000 gallons        |
| Station C. New Winchelsea Road ... | 2,723,000 gallons         |
| Station D. King's Avenue ...       | 4,234,000 gallons         |
| Station E. Mason Road ...          | <u>13,903,000 gallons</u> |
|                                    | <u>51,481,000</u>         |

There is an increase in the amount of sewage lifted during 1960, the amount for 1959 being 43,923,997 gallons.

#### RAINFALL

|                                   | <u>1959</u>                 | <u>1960</u>                 |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Number of days on which rain fell | 96                          | 144                         |
| Longest period of drought         | 30 days                     | 16 days                     |
| Periods of drought                | 24th Jan-22nd Feb<br>(incl) | 28th Apr-11th May<br>(incl) |
|                                   | 12th Sep-10th Oct           | 14th July-8th Aug           |
| Rainfall                          | 28.43 inches                | 37.96 inches                |







| <u>1960</u> | <u>Total</u><br><u>Rainfall</u><br><u>inches</u> |      | <u>Notes</u>     |
|-------------|--|------|------------------|
| January     | 2.96 (12)  | 20th | 1.20;            |
| February    | 1.37 (15)  | -    |                  |
| March       | 2.87 (23)  | 29th | 0.54;            |
| April       | 1.17 (25)  | 8th  | 0.86;            |
| May         | 2.24 (24)  | -    |                  |
| June        | 1.48 (22)  | 9th  | 0.50;            |
| July        | 3.05 (22)  | 8th  | .74; 23rd .73;   |
| August      | 3.20 (20)  | 11th | 1.43; 12th 0.97; |
| September   | 2.76 (20)  | 20th | 1.11;            |
| October     | 3.66 (14)  | 9th  | 0.85;            |
| November    | 9.59 (8)   | 26th | 0.72;            |
| December    | 3.61 (17)  | 2nd  | 0.83; 4th 1.30;  |

( ) indicate total number of days without measurable rainfall.

#### REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

6,955 cubic yards of refuse have been disposed of at the Camber Fields Tip; this comprised 5,915 cubic yards of domestic refuse and 1,040 cubic yards of builders' refuse, excavated materials, etc.

#### General

In conclusion, I feel I must compliment the District Nurses on the excellent way in which they have helped the Public Health Department, particularly with regard to premises which are either in need of repair, verminous or insanitary. Close liaison between the nurses and this department has resulted in a quicker investigation and remedy in many cases and their co-operation has been invaluable.

#### SECTION III

Accommodation under the letting control of the Council at 31st December, 1960:-

|  |            |
|--|------------|
| Assisted Schemes - Pre-war houses...             | 115        |
| Assisted Schemes - Post-war houses and flats ... | 322        |
| Expired Leases - pre-1914 houses ...             | <u>53</u>  |
| Total dwellings ...                              | <u>490</u> |

Applicants on Council's Housing List as at 31.12.1960 ... 36

#### Arrears of Rent

| <u>Year Ending</u> | <u>Total Rent</u><br><u>Collectible</u> | <u>Arrears</u> | <u>Percentage</u> |
|--------------------|---|----------------|-------------------|
| 31. 3.1959         | £39,904. 2. 10d                         | £27. 8. 5d     | 0.068             |
| 31. 3.1960         | £40,659. 6. 8d                          | £12. 5. 11d    | 0.030             |
| 31.3.1961          | £44,934.17. 4d                          | £8. 7. 5d.     | 0.018             |

#### IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

|  |        |
|--|--------|
| Applications received...               | 17     |
| Applications approved...               | 17     |
| Amount promised in grants for 1960 ... | £2,599 |



